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7 JUL 1948

MEMORANDUM TO: Major General Walter E. Todd, USA, Deputy Director, Joint Intelligence Group, Joint Staff

SUBJECT : Priority List for National Intelligence Surveys

REFERENCE : Priority List from the Joint Intelligence Committee, JCS, dated 6 February 1948

1. It is requested that reference be re-examined at the earliest practicable date with a view to developing a priority list, in terms of NIS Areas, which reflects current requirements of the Joint Staff. This priority list will serve as a guide for the production of National Intelligence Surveys.

2. In order to provide a clear indication of the relative importance which the Joint Staff attaches to the various NIS Areas, and to insure that no NIS area is inadvertently overlooked, it is further requested that this list be compiled into three categories of priority, namely:

- a. NIS Areas of high priority
- b. NIS Areas of moderate priority
- c. NIS Areas of little or no priority
(i.e., those areas which do not reflect any appreciable requirements of the Joint Staff).

3. More precise guidance for the production of NIS will be provided if the following are added to the above-mentioned list:

- a. NIS completion dates which are necessary to meet established Joint Staff commitments.
- b. Indication of any particular chapters of certain NIS for which special priority is desired.
- c. Any other requirements of the Joint Staff which should receive special attention.

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4. While the NIS production schedule will be based upon the Joint Staff priorities, it must also take into account the production capabilities of the several intelligence agencies responsible for the preparation of the NIS. These agencies will consistently emphasize production of NIS on areas for which the Joint Staff indicates high priority. However, the regional organization existing in the several agencies will permit production of NIS on areas of lesser priority concurrently with those of high priority. Thus, the Joint Staff may actually, in many instances, receive NIS in order differing from that indicated on their priority list.

5. In order that the NIS production effort may be of maximum usefulness to the Joint Staff, it would be appreciated if the NIS Committee could be kept currently informed through established liaison channels regarding any changes in Joint Staff requirements which affect the priority list, or which have significant bearing on other aspects of the NIS Program.

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Signed

R. H. HILLENKOETTER
REAR ADMIRAL, USN
DIRECTOR OF CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE